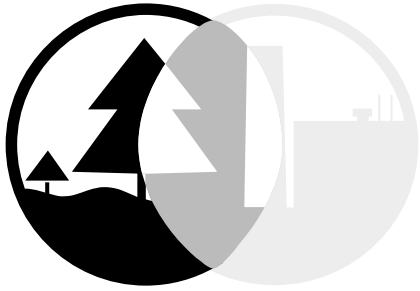




Sediments Remediation Action Team



RTDF

Remediation Technologies
Development Forum

RTDF Action Teams

Lasagna™ Partnership

Bioremediation Consortium

**Permeable Reactive
Barriers Action Team**

**INERT Soil-Metals Action
Team**

***In Situ* Flushing Action
Team**

**Phytoremediation of
Organics Action Team**

What Is the Sediments Remediation Action Team?

The Sediments Remediation Action Team was established in March 1996 as one of the seven Action Teams under the Remediation Technologies Development Forum (RTDF). The RTDF was created by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1992 to foster collaboration between the public and private sectors in finding innovative solutions to mutual hazardous waste problems. The Sediments Remediation Action Team includes representatives from industry, government, and academia who share an interest in developing alternatives for remediating contaminated sediments.

What Is the Problem of Concern?

Contaminated sediments, both in freshwater and marine systems, are a significant issue in the United States and abroad. Remediation of sediments is often complex and is usually compounded by the presence of more than one contaminant at a site. Sediments often contain polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and metals. Many traditional remediation techniques, such as dredging and subsequent off-site treatment, are not cost-effective, and proper assessment, which is critical for implementation of a remediation strategy, also may be difficult and costly.

What Is the Action Team's Mission?

The mission of the Sediments Remediation Action Team is to develop cost-effective, on-site technologies to remediate contaminated sediments and enable recovery of biological systems. The Action Team is exploring a number of potential focus areas, including:

Developing *in situ* remediation approaches

Evaluating on-site, *ex situ* remediation technologies

Examining the applicability of existing soil remediation techniques to sediments

Understanding the mechanisms and rates of natural attenuation

Enhancing or developing procedures for evaluating the need for and success of remedial activities

What Processes Will Be Studied?

The Action Team has developed subgroups to focus on the following three areas of interest:

Assessment—This area includes the evaluation of hazard, stress, and exposure resulting from sediment-associated contaminants. Information required for the human and ecological risk assessment paradigms includes (but is not limited to) toxicity, transport, and the ability of the sediment (biotic and abiotic) to naturally attenuate the contaminants.

In Situ Containment/Capping—*In situ* capping as a remediation alternative involves placement of a covering or cap of clean isolating material (e.g., sediment, sand, gravel, geotextiles, etc.) over a deposit of contaminated sediment to isolate it physically and chemically from the aquatic environment.

In Situ Treatment—A number of *in situ* remediation technologies are under consideration by the subgroup, including natural attenuation, phytoremediation, introduction of chemical additives to enhance the natural processes, and electrokinetics. The subgroup is most interested in passive technologies that will remediate the contaminants without significantly increasing the stress on the ecology.

The efforts of the three subgroups will be coordinated to create a cohesive research team.

What Activities Are Planned?

The Action Team is identifying sites at which a cooperative field effort may be pursued. Team members are evaluating the resources, experience, and facilities they can make available to carry out a field effort.

Who Are the Action Team Members?



U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers

U.S. Department of Defense

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Naval Facilities Engineering

Services Center

U.S. Naval Research Laboratory



ARCO

Chevron

Ciba-Geigy

Dow
DuPont
EPRI
Exxon

Gas Research Institute

General Electric

ICI Americas

Monsanto

PPG Industries

Rohm and Haas

Shell

Solutia, Inc.

Texaco

Zeneca



University of Michigan



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Would You Like More Information?

For more information on the Sediments Remediation Action Team, please contact:

Bruce Yare (F2EA)

Solutia Inc.

10300 Olive Boulevard

P.O. Box 66760

St. Louis, MO 63166-6760

Tel: 314-694-6370

Dennis Timberlake

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

National Risk Management Research

Laboratory

26 West Martin Luther King Drive

Cincinnati, OH 45268

Tel: 513-569-7547

E-mail: timberlake.dennis@epamail.epa.gov

For information on the RTDF or other Action Teams, please visit the RTDF World Wide Web site at www.rtdf.org or contact:

Robert Olexsey

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

26 West Martin Luther King Drive

Cincinnati, OH 45268

Tel: 513-569-7861

E-mail: olexsey.bob@epamail.epa.gov

Walter W. Kovalick, Jr., Ph.D.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

401 M Street, SW (5102G)

Washington, DC 20460

Tel: 703-603-9910

E-mail: kovalick.walter@epamail.epa.gov

To request other RTDF fact sheets, please write/fax to:

EPA/NCEPI

11305 Reed Hartman Highway, Suite 219

Cincinnati, OH 45241

Fax: 513-489-8695



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